

The Secretariat of Agriculture reports a case of avian influenza (AH5N1) in wild birds

The National Agro-alimentary Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) urges commercial and backyard poultry producers to increase biosafety measures at their farms, comply with the provisions of the Dinesa, and report any suspicious cases



Currently, the SENASICA is taking more samples in the region.

The National Agro-Alimentary Health, Safety and Quality Service (SENASICA) confirmed in their laboratories the first case of highly pathogenic avian influenza (AH5N1 strain) that has caused severe outbreaks in Europe, the United States, and Canada. The isolated case was detected in a gyrfalcon (*Falco rusticolus*) that was feeding off wild game birds in the Lerma River basin, in Estado de México.

The agency that reports to the Secretariat of Agriculture and Rural Development informed that a report was received through the operation of the Dinesa (Animal Health National Emergency Device) that was implemented in June 2022 to protect the national poultry production, and that immediately the hawk was tested to confirm the cause of death.

The technicians of the Mexico-United States Commission for Prevention of Foot-and-Mouth Disease and other Animal Exotic Diseases (CPA) of the General Directorate of Animal Health (DGSA) of the SENASICA are currently taking more samples in the region, to confirm the presence or absence of the virus in other wild birds.

The DGSA emphasized that presently there are no more suspicious cases, however, the agency urged the commercial and backyard poultry production units to increase biosafety measures in their farm, comply with the provisions of the Dinesa, and immediately report any anomaly they detect in their animals.

The Disena is a device that puts in motion all the resources from the Mexican government to control and eradicate an exotic animal pest or disease.

The Resolution to activate the Dinesa, published in the Federal Official Gazette (DOF) on June 3, stipulates that the Senasica is responsible for coordinating the device, through the DGSA, with the participation of the State Animal Health Emergency Groups (GEESA), the state governments, and the productive sector.

Owners, brokers, traders, and all individuals that carry out activities connected with the production, industrialization, transportation, and trading of birds, their products and byproducts, and any and all materials and tools related to poultry production are obliged to comply with the resolution.

To protect the national poultry production, the resolution establishes control mechanisms on the mobilization of birds and other measures to be taken to prevent the dispersal of the disease across the national territory.

To report the suspected presence of an animal pest or disease, the Senasica has made available to the population the 800 751 2100 phone number and the Avise application for iOS and Android systems.

Reports can be filed in any office of the Secretariat of Agriculture, the SENASICA, or the CPA Liaison, located in all the federated states of the country.